



November
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Inside College Station

A publication for College Station citizens

Tis the Season...

Cooler temperatures remind us the holidays are upon us. To young and old alike, the holidays in College Station means *Christmas in the Park* - Central Park, specifically. A lighting ceremony December 1 will kick off the event's 22nd year, with festivities starting at 6 p.m.

Each year Central Park glows with over half a million lights, creating beautiful holiday scenes. Lighting crews have been hard at work since August installing all of the old favorites as well as creating new lighted scenes sure to delight.

Every lighted scene in the park is crafted by Parks & Recreation staff, as the lights shine brightly each night from 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. throughout December.



For the very best experience, visit *Christmas in the Park* on an Open House evening scheduled Friday and Saturday nights (6 - 9 p.m.) during the first three weeks of December. On these nights, visitors keep warm with cocoa and cookies, courtesy of Kroger, served by Santa's helpers.

Kids can visit with Santa while mom and dad take a picture, or sing

Christmas carols on an old-fashioned hayride. Life-size puppets wander the park, interacting with children of all ages. Entertainment provided by local clubs, organizations, churches, and schools provides seasonal ambiance. New activities this year include a date night for couples, and a family picnic evening under the glowing lights of Central Park. Children's activities include counting elves in the

park and decorating ornaments to take home on Open House nights. All events are free.

Christmas in the Park is generously sponsored by Waltman & Grisham, Attorneys at Law. For more information, call 764-3486 or go online at www.cstx.gov.

From the Fire House

When *Fire Chief* magazine announced the winners of its sixth annual Station Style Design Awards program, recognizing outstanding architecture and design within fire departments nationwide, College Station was the only Texas winner on the list.

Fire Station 5, recently completed and operational in October, was awarded the gold medal in the combined-use category. Architects for the project were Brown Reynolds Watford Architects, Inc., of College Station.

"A facility capable of decontaminating equipment and turnout gear, a multi-purpose training room, and the addition of fitness areas and a layout that increases efficiency in handling not only fires, but emergency medical resources, contributed to our selection," said Fire Chief R. B. Alley. "Our new facilities support the demand for quicker response times, the integration of diversity into stations and an added focus on firefighter safety - and we have a police officer substation in the new facility."

The 7,000 square foot building is located east of Highway 6 on William D. Fitch Parkway near the entrance to the Pebble Creek subdivision.

Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded within each of five categories: volunteer departments, career departments, satellite stations, combined-use stations and renovated fire stations.



Mark Your Calendar

November 2 Planning and Zoning Commission*, 7 pm, City Hall

November 4 Aggie Football vs. OU, 1 p.m.

November 3-5 19th Annual Festival of Roses, Antique Rose Emporium, (979) 836-9051

November 8 Senior World Passport - India, 10 am, The EXIT Teen Center, 862-6700

November 9 City Council*, Workshop Session, 3 pm; Regular Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall

November 11 Aggie Football vs. Nebraska, Maroon Out, 1 p.m.

November 14 Senior World Passport - Puerto Rico, 10 am, The EXIT Teen Center, 862-6700

November 18 Bonfire Remembrance Day

November 20 (Monday) City Council*, Workshop Session, 3 pm; Regular Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall

November 22-24 CSISD Thanksgiving Holiday

November 23-24 Thanksgiving Holiday, City offices closed, no sanitation collection Thursday

December 1 Christmas in the Park Lighting Ceremony, 6 pm, Central Park

December 2 Breakfast with Santa, Lincoln Recreation Center, 764-3779

Christmas Carnival, Lincoln Recreation Center, 764-3779

Christmas in the Park Open House, 6 - 9 p.m., Central Park

December 3 Holiday Parade, 776-4444

December 7 Planning & Zoning Commission*, 7 pm, City Hall

* Broadcast live on Cable Channel 19 and www.cstx.gov

News to Know



The City Council's regular schedule of meetings on first and third Thursdays has been changed due to the holiday season. November meetings will take place on the 9th (Thursday) and the 20th (Monday). Only one meeting is scheduled in December, and it will be held on the 14th. Meetings begin at their regular times (3 p.m. for work shops; 7 p.m. for regular meetings) and are televised live on Cable Channel 19.

Can't get Channel 19 or just want to watch the meeting on your own schedule? All City Council and Planning & Zoning meetings are broadcast live as well as archived by agenda item via streaming video on the City's website - www.cstx.gov.



City offices will be closed November 22-23 for Thanksgiving, December 25-26 for Christmas and January 1 for New Year's Day. Sanitation collection will run one day later for those holiday weeks.

Recycling will not be collected on the actual holidays. The remainder of each holiday week will be as usual with the exception of the New Year's holiday. That week, recycling will run one day later.



Leaving town for the holidays? The College Station Police Department would like to remind you that the holiday season brings increased opportunity for thieves who prefer to do their shopping when homeowners are traveling. Here are a few tips you can follow to protect your home.

- ◆ Lock doors with dead-bolts and keep sliding-glass doors secure by placing a wooden dowel or broom handle in the tracks. Be sure any inside doors leading to the garage are bolted and keep valuables such as gifts, silver and electronics out of view from windows.

- ◆ Make it look as though you are there by creating a sense of activity. Place selected indoor and outdoor lights on timers and partially open one or two curtains. By doing so, you create the appearance that someone is home.

- ◆ Leave a car in the driveway or have a neighbor park in front of your house. Remember to remove the garage door opener from the car before you leave. You can also ask a reliable friend to wheel the trash cart to the curb, and pick up your mail or newspapers as well as any flyers placed in your door. Burglars will generally skip your house if they believe you're inside.



It's not too late to register for the 2007 **Citizens University** class scheduled January 22 to March 31. This 10-week course in city government gives residents an insiders look at how the city operates and a greater appreciation for local government. Class is free and applicants must be 21 years of age, a registered voter in College Station, and have lived in the city for at least one year. Apply online at www.cstx.gov or call 764-3499 for more information. Application deadline is December 5.